IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 2-7 as follows:

Certain embodiments of the invention may be better understood with reference to PCT Application No. PCT/US2003/041560 [[_____]], filed on December 30, 2003, entitled APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TREATING SLEEP APNEA, having attorney docket no. D-3077 CIP PCT, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by this specific reference.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, lines 10-16 as follows:

During a dynamic, wave-like or peristaltic motion of the vessel or other body region, the apparatus 100 may move, contract and expand to take on all three [[thee]] of these deployed configurations in varying degrees. The apparatus 100 is structured to be sufficiently resilient to allow for such dynamic motion with little or no loss in hoop strength over an extended period of wear.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 17, lines 8-27 as follows:

For example, in the preferred embodiment shown in Fig. 5, the appliance 110 takes the form of a flat oval (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6d) when located outside the human or animal body region, and can be pre-curved for example, by heat-treatment, to form an [[a]] open ended, concave configuration such as shown in Fig. 6a-6c and 6e. For example, the appliance 110 may be in the form of an oval having a length of about 50mm (formed to a semicircular curved diameter of about 30mm) and a height of about 20mm.

As shown most clearly in <u>Fig.</u> [[Figs.]] 5 the appliance 110 has a length defined between spaced apart, radiused end portions 114, and the appliance comprises a plurality of flexible wire or ribbon struts 140, which preferably extend between the radiused end portion extending along a substantial portion of the length of the appliance 110. The struts 140 may bow outwardly as shown to define the oval or elliptical configuration of the appliance 110 in its undeployed state. For example, the appliance 110 may comprise between about 2 and about 50 struts or more, and preferably between about 6 and about 20 struts, for example about 10 struts.